

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-06

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STATE FOR CU/ARTS;

USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: CASCAIS JAZZ FESTIVAL

REF: LISBON 7366

1. SUMMARY: THE DEPARTMENT'S MONEY IN THE ANNUAL CASCAIS JAZZ FESTIVAL WAS, AS USUAL, WELL-SPENT. THE SEVEN AMERICAN GROUPS WHO PLAYED DOMINATED THE "SHOW," AND REITERATED THEIR COUNTRY'S CREATIVE VIGOR IN THIS VERY AMERICAN, AND RESPECTED AS SUCH, MEDIUM. THE PERFORMERS WERE REAL PRO'S, AND THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF PORTUGUESE PUBLIC COULD ONLY BE OVERWHELMED. END SUMMARY.

2. THE VII CASCAIS INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL TOOK PLACE NOV. 11-13. WITH SPONSORSHIP OF GOP DEPT. OF TOURISM, DEPT. OF CULTURAL ACTION, TOURISM COUNCIL OF COSTA DO SOL, AND THE EMBASSY/ THANKS TO A \$5,000 GRANT FROM THE DEPT. SEVEN AMERICAN JAZZ BANDS (JOHNNY GRIFFIN QUARTET, GEORGE DUKE QUINTET, ART BLAKEY AND THE JAZZ MESSENGERS, SHELLY MANNE QUARTET WITH LEE KONITZ, CLIFFORD THORNTON, ODETTA/SAMMY PRICE ENSEMBLE, AND THE FREDDIE HUBBARD QUINTET PERFORMED DURING THREE 5-6 HOURS CONCERTS BEFORE A CROWD OF 20,000, COMPOSED OF A WIDE MIX OF PORTUGUESE SOCIETY WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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A HEAVY YOUTH PRESENCE. FOR MOST OF THE CROWD THE FESTIVAL AMOUNTED TO AN ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WORSHIP JAZZ. PERFORMANCES WERE FILMED BY TV AND BROADCAST BY PORTUGUESE STATE RADIO; CONCERTS BY ODETTA/SAMMY PRICE ENSEMBLE AND FREDDIE HUBBARD QUINTET WERE TRANSMITTED LIVE ON TV. FREDDIE HUBBARD DID NOT APPEAR DUE TO SICKNESS; HIS GROUP SUFFERED WITHOUT HIS LEADERSHIP, BUT PERFORMED WITH

LEE KONITZ REPLACING HUBBARD.

3. FESTIVAL WAS A GREAT SUCCESS BUT ALMOST ALL NEWSPAPERS COMPLAINED ABOUT THE FACT THAT "NAME" JAZZ GROUPS APPEAR PORTUGAL ONLY ONCE A YEAR -- AT THE CASCAIS FESTIVAL.

4. PRESS COVERAGE ON AMERICAN ARTISTS WAS EXTENSIVE AND HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY. "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" (11/15) WROTE: "FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, AT THE END OF AUTUMN, AN IMMENSE COLLECTION OF JAZZ FALLS UPON USS...AND THE GREAT CREATORS OF JAZZ SHAKE US OUT OF OUR LETHARGY." ON ODETTA, "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" WROTE 11/15..."AN EXTRAORDINARY ARTIST WHOSE SINGING MOVES ANY AUDIENCE WITH THE BEAUTY AND STRENGTH OF HER SONGS" AND "A LUTA" ADDED 11/15, "ODETTA'S SINGING WAS BREATHTAKING." ON SAMMY PRICE AND HIS ENSEMBLE, "A LUTA" WROTE: "THEIR PERFORMANCE WAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST POINTS OF THE FESTIVAL" AND "DIARIO POPULAR" SAID (11/14) THAT "SAMMY PRICE SET THE CROWD ON FIRE". "CLIFFORD THORNTON"... GAVE US A CARPET OF HARMONIES WITH HYPNOTIC EFFECT" (DIARIO DE NOTICIAS 11/15). "ART BLACKKEY AND HIS JAZZ MESSENGERS, A GROUP BLOWING AND PLAYING WITH SUCH VIGOR AND PRECISION ONE WOULD THINK IT A LARGE ORCHESTRA, DRIVEN BY THE HARDEST BEAT IN THE JAZZ WORLD..."DIARIO DE NOTICIAS 11/15" AND ON AND ON.

5. CONCLUSION: THIS FESTIVAL, WHERE TRADITIONAL JAZZ WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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PLAYED ALONG WITH AVANT-GARDE JAZZ, WAS A FINE EXAMPLE OF ""MUSICAL PROGRESSISM" (EXPRESSO) AND PROVED THAT BOTH GENRES CAN GO TOGETHER. THE RESPONSE TO BOTH WAS ENTHUSIASTIC, PROVING ONCE MORE THAN A HIGH-QUALITY JAZZ OFFERING -- EVEN IF IT COMES IN SUCH LARGE CHUNKS AS TO BE DIFFICULT TO DIGEST ALL AT ONE TIME -- GIVES PRESITGE TO THE UNITED STATES. MANY PORTUGUESE INTELLECTUALS ARE JAZZ BUFFS, AND THEY MINGLED WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE AGAIN THIS YEAR TO APPLAUD THE OVERWHELMINGLY AMERICAN JAZZ STARS AT THE CASCAIS FESTIVAL. DEPT. COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE WAS WELL JUSTIFIED. CARLUCCI

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